

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
AID-05 AGRE-00 /055 W
-----171156Z 063867 /20

R 170910Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8283
INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 1228

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, EAGR, CB, LA, BM, VN, TH

SUBJECT: USE OF SATELLITE IMAGERY TO DETERMINE POPPY AND RICE
CULTIVATION

1. AS PART OF THE EFFORT IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG SUPPRESSION,
EMBASSY SUGGESTS UTILIZATION SATELLITE IMAGERY MAY BE UNTAPPED
RESOURCE. WE UNDERSTAND VISUAL INTERPRETATION IMAGERY, IN
CONJUNCTION AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, SUCCESSFULLY USED IN LATTER
DAYS USAID/LAOS PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY PLOTS OF POPPIES.

2. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE IDENTIFICATION OF RICE FIELDS VIA
SATELLITE IMAGERY MAY BE IN TECHNOLOGICAL INFANCY, WE DO
NOTE THAT THE MEKONG COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT, THROUGH A COMBINA-
TION OF SATELLITE IMAGERY AND PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE SECRE-
TARIAT PERSONNEL OF AREAS IN CANBODIA AND SOUTH VIET-NAM, HAS
BEEN ABLE TO MAKE STUDIES OF VISIBLE TEMPORAL CHANGES IN
AGRICULTURAL AREAS. BY COMPARING CURRENT MATERIAL WITH OLDER
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY THEY HAVE, IN THE RECENT PAST, PRODUCED
RICE CULTIVATION INFORMATION COMMENSURATE WITH THAT
DERIVED FROM REFUGEE REPORTS. UNFORTUNATELY, MEKONG
SECRETARIAT IS NOT NOW RECEIVING IMAGERY AND, IN ANY
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EVENT, KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONNEL ARE NO LONGER IN BANGKOK.
WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, EA/VLC CAMBODIA DESK OFFICER
CARNEY HAS BEEN TRYING TO OBTAIN A READING FROM LANDSAT
WITH RESPECT TO CAMBODIA. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO VARIOUS
ELEMENTS IN THE MISSION TO KNOW WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE
AREA PLANTED IN RICE IN THAILAND AND VIET-NAM AS WELL.
COMPARISONS FROM YEAR TO YEAR WOULD PROVIDE A USEFUL

ANALYTICAL TOOL.

3. WE ARE NOW IN POSSESSION OF RESULTS OF PHASE I (ACCUMULATION OF GROUND TRUTH) FOR MEKONG-RED SPONSORED PROJECT ENTITLED COMPUTER PROCESSING OF SATELLITE IMAGERY TAPES BEING CONDUCTED AT ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY/ BANGKOK. INTENT OF THIS ACTIVITY IS TO DEVELOP TECHNOLOGY FOR IDENTIFICATION OF RICE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, IN THIS AREA DIRECT FROM TAPES. HOWEVER, COMPLETION OF PHASE II (COMPUTER PROCESSING) NOT DUE UNTIL END FEBRUARY. A COPY OF PHASE I HAS BEEN PROVIDED NASA FOR ITS GENERAL INFORMATION. ALSO, PERHAPS USDA'S LARGE AREA CROP IMAGERY EXPERIMENT COULD PROVIDE SOME USEFUL INPUT.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT LOOK INTO FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING US ON REGULAR BASIS WITH REQUESTED INTERPRETATION OF LANDSAT IMAGERY IDENTIFYING POPPY AND RICE CULTIVATION IN THIS AREA.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE, DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), SATELLITES, PRODUCTION DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO01228
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770016-0863
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770147/aaaaboyu.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0edcf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3585375
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: SNAR, EAGR, CB, LA, BM, VN, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0edcf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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